

CHAPTER 2024-188

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 328

An act relating to affordable housing; amending ss. 125.01055 and 166.04151, F.S.; clarifying application; prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively, from restricting the floor area ratio of certain proposed developments under certain circumstances; providing that the density, floor area ratio, or height of certain developments, bonuses, variances, or other special exceptions are not included in the calculation of the currently allowed density, floor area ratio, or height by counties and municipalities, respectively; authorizing counties and municipalities, respectively, to restrict the height of proposed developments under certain circumstances; prohibiting the administrative approval by counties and municipalities, respectively, of a proposed development within a specified proximity to a military installation; requiring counties and municipalities, respectively, to maintain a certain policy on their websites; requiring counties and municipalities, respectively, to consider reducing parking requirements under certain circumstances; requiring counties and municipalities, respectively, to reduce or eliminate parking requirements for certain proposed mixed-use developments that meet certain requirements; providing certain requirements for developments located within a transit-oriented development or area; defining the term “major transportation hub”; making technical changes; providing requirements for developments authorized located within a transit-oriented development or area; clarifying that a county or municipality, respectively, is not precluded from granting additional exceptions; clarifying that a proposed development is not precluded from receiving a bonus for density, height, or floor area ratio if specified conditions are satisfied; requiring that such bonuses be administratively approved by counties and municipalities, respectively; revising applicability; authorizing that specified developments be treated as a conforming use under certain circumstances; authorizing that specified developments be treated as a nonconforming use under certain circumstances; authorizing applicants for certain proposed developments to notify a county or municipality, as applicable, of their intent to proceed under certain provisions; requiring counties and municipalities to allow certain applicants to submit a revised application, written request, or notice of intent; amending s. 196.1978, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “newly constructed”; revising conditions for when multifamily projects are considered property used for a charitable purpose and are eligible to receive an ad valorem property tax exemption; making technical changes; requiring property appraisers to make certain exemptions from ad valorem property taxes; providing the method for determining the value of a unit for certain purposes; requiring property appraisers to review certain applications and make certain determinations; authorizing property appraisers to request and review additional information; authorizing property appraisers to grant exemptions only

under certain conditions; revising requirements for property owners seeking a certification notice from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation; providing that a certain determination by the corporation does not constitute an exemption; revising eligibility; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 196.1979, F.S.; revising the value to which a certain ad valorem property tax exemption applies; revising a condition of eligibility for vacant residential units to qualify for a certain ad valorem property tax exemption; making technical changes; revising the deadline for an application for exemption; revising deadlines by which boards and governing bodies must deliver to or notify the Department of Revenue of the adoption, repeal, or expiration of certain ordinances; requiring property appraisers to review certain applications and make certain determinations; authorizing property appraisers to request and review additional information; authorizing property appraisers to grant exemptions only under certain conditions; providing the method for determining the value of a unit for certain purposes; providing for retroactive application; amending s. 333.03, F.S.; excluding certain proposed developments from specified airport zoning provisions; amending s. 420.507, F.S.; revising the enumerated powers of the corporation; amending s. 420.5096, F.S.; making technical changes; amending s. 420.518, F.S.; specifying conditions under which the corporation may preclude applicants from corporation programs; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 125.01055, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

125.01055 Affordable housing.—

(7)(a) A county must authorize multifamily and mixed-use residential as allowable uses in any area zoned for commercial, industrial, or mixed use if at least 40 percent of the residential units in a proposed multifamily rental development are rental units that, for a period of at least 30 years, are affordable as defined in s. 420.0004. Notwithstanding any other law, local ordinance, or regulation to the contrary, a county may not require a proposed multifamily development to obtain a zoning or land use change, special exception, conditional use approval, variance, or comprehensive plan amendment for the building height, zoning, and densities authorized under this subsection. For mixed-use residential projects, at least 65 percent of the total square footage must be used for residential purposes.

(b) A county may not restrict the density of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below the highest currently allowed density on any unincorporated land in the county where residential development is allowed under the county's land development regulations. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "highest currently allowed density" does not include the density of any building that met the requirements of this subsection or the density of any building that has received any bonus,

variance, or other special exception for density provided in the county's land development regulations as an incentive for development.

(c) A county may not restrict the floor area ratio of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below 150 percent of the highest currently allowed floor area ratio on any unincorporated land in the county where development is allowed under the county's land development regulations. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "highest currently allowed floor area ratio" does not include the floor area ratio of any building that met the requirements of this subsection or the floor area ratio of any building that has received any bonus, variance, or other special exception for floor area ratio provided in the county's land development regulations as an incentive for development. For purposes of this subsection, the term floor area ratio includes floor lot ratio.

(d)1.(e) A county may not restrict the height of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below the highest currently allowed height for a commercial or residential building development located in its jurisdiction within 1 mile of the proposed development or 3 stories, whichever is higher. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "highest currently allowed height" does not include the height of any building that met the requirements of this subsection or the height of any building that has received any bonus, variance, or other special exception for height provided in the county's land development regulations as an incentive for development.

2. If the proposed development is adjacent to, on two or more sides, a parcel zoned for single-family residential use which is within a single-family residential development with at least 25 contiguous single-family homes, the county may restrict the height of the proposed development to 150 percent of the tallest building on any property adjacent to the proposed development, the highest currently allowed height for the property provided in the county's land development regulations, or 3 stories, whichever is higher. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "adjacent to" means those properties sharing more than one point of a property line, but does not include properties separated by a public road.

(e)(d) A proposed development authorized under this subsection must be administratively approved and no further action by the board of county commissioners is required if the development satisfies the county's land development regulations for multifamily developments in areas zoned for such use and is otherwise consistent with the comprehensive plan, with the exception of provisions establishing allowable densities, floor area ratios, height, and land use. Such land development regulations include, but are not limited to, regulations relating to setbacks and parking requirements. A proposed development located within one-quarter mile of a military installation identified in s. 163.3175(2) may not be administratively approved. Each county shall maintain on its website a policy containing procedures and expectations for administrative approval pursuant to this subsection.

~~(f)1.(e)~~ A county must consider reducing parking requirements for a proposed development authorized under this subsection if the development is located within one-quarter one-half mile of a ~~major~~ transit stop, as defined in the county's land development code, and the ~~major~~ transit stop is accessible from the development.

2. A county must reduce parking requirements by at least 20 percent for a proposed development authorized under this subsection if the development:

a. Is located within one-half mile of a major transportation hub that is accessible from the proposed development by safe, pedestrian-friendly means, such as sidewalks, crosswalks, elevated pedestrian or bike paths, or other multimodal design features; and

b. Has available parking within 600 feet of the proposed development which may consist of options such as on-street parking, parking lots, or parking garages available for use by residents of the proposed development. However, a county may not require that the available parking compensate for the reduction in parking requirements.

3. A county must eliminate parking requirements for a proposed mixed-use residential development authorized under this subsection within an area recognized by the county as a transit-oriented development or area, as provided in paragraph (h).

4. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "major transportation hub" means any transit station, whether bus, train, or light rail, which is served by public transit with a mix of other transportation options.

~~(g)(f)~~ For proposed multifamily developments in an unincorporated area zoned for commercial or industrial use which is within the boundaries of a multicounty independent special district that was created to provide municipal services and is not authorized to levy ad valorem taxes, and less than 20 percent of the land area within such district is designated for commercial or industrial use, a county must authorize, as provided in this subsection, such development only if the development is mixed-use residential.

(h) A proposed development authorized under this subsection which is located within a transit-oriented development or area, as recognized by the county, must be mixed-use residential and otherwise comply with requirements of the county's regulations applicable to the transit-oriented development or area except for use, height, density, floor area ratio, and parking as provided in this subsection or as otherwise agreed to by the county and the applicant for the development.

~~(i)(g)~~ Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a development authorized under this subsection must comply with all applicable state and local laws and regulations.

(j)1. Nothing in this subsection precludes a county from granting a bonus, variance, conditional use, or other special exception for height, density, or floor area ratio in addition to the height, density, and floor area ratio requirements in this subsection.

2. Nothing in this subsection precludes a proposed development authorized under this subsection from receiving a bonus for density, height, or floor area ratio pursuant to an ordinance or regulation of the jurisdiction where the proposed development is located if the proposed development satisfies the conditions to receive the bonus except for any condition which conflicts with this subsection. If a proposed development qualifies for such bonus, the bonus must be administratively approved by the county and no further action by the board of county commissioners is required.

~~(k)(h)~~ This subsection does not apply to:

1. Airport-impacted areas as provided in s. 333.03.
2. Property defined as recreational and commercial working waterfront in s. 342.201(2)(b) in any area zoned as industrial.

~~(l)(i)~~ This subsection expires October 1, 2033.

(8) Any development authorized under paragraph (7)(a) must be treated as a conforming use even after the expiration of subsection (7) and the development's affordability period as provided in paragraph (7)(a), notwithstanding the county's comprehensive plan, future land use designation, or zoning. If at any point during the development's affordability period the development violates the affordability period requirement provided in paragraph (7)(a), the development must be allowed a reasonable time to cure such violation. If the violation is not cured within a reasonable time, the development must be treated as a nonconforming use.

Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 166.04151, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

166.04151 Affordable housing.—

(7)(a) A municipality must authorize multifamily and mixed-use residential as allowable uses in any area zoned for commercial, industrial, or mixed use if at least 40 percent of the residential units in a proposed multifamily rental development are rental units that, for a period of at least 30 years, are affordable as defined in s. 420.0004. Notwithstanding any other law, local ordinance, or regulation to the contrary, a municipality may not require a proposed multifamily development to obtain a zoning or land use change, special exception, conditional use approval, variance, or comprehensive plan amendment for the building height, zoning, and densities authorized under this subsection. For mixed-use residential projects, at least 65 percent of the total square footage must be used for residential purposes.

(b) A municipality may not restrict the density of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below the highest currently allowed density on any land in the municipality where residential development is allowed under the municipality's land development regulations. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "highest currently allowed density" does not include the density of any building that met the requirements of this subsection or the density of any building that has received any bonus, variance, or other special exception for density provided in the municipality's land development regulations as an incentive for development.

(c) A municipality may not restrict the floor area ratio of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below 150 percent of the highest currently allowed floor area ratio on any land in the municipality where development is allowed under the municipality's land development regulations. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "highest currently allowed floor area ratio" does not include the floor area ratio of any building that met the requirements of this subsection or the floor area ratio of any building that has received any bonus, variance, or other special exception for floor area ratio provided in the municipality's land development regulations as an incentive for development. For purposes of this subsection, the term "floor area ratio" includes floor lot ratio.

(d)1.(e) A municipality may not restrict the height of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below the highest currently allowed height for a commercial or residential building development located in its jurisdiction within 1 mile of the proposed development or 3 stories, whichever is higher. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "highest currently allowed height" does not include the height of any building that met the requirements of this subsection or the height of any building that has received any bonus, variance, or other special exception for height provided in the municipality's land development regulations as an incentive for development.

2. If the proposed development is adjacent to, on two or more sides, a parcel zoned for single-family residential use that is within a single-family residential development with at least 25 contiguous single-family homes, the municipality may restrict the height of the proposed development to 150 percent of the tallest building on any property adjacent to the proposed development, the highest currently allowed height for the property provided in the municipality's land development regulations, or 3 stories, whichever is higher. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "adjacent to" means those properties sharing more than one point of a property line, but does not include properties separated by a public road.

(e)(d) A proposed development authorized under this subsection must be administratively approved and no further action by the governing body of the municipality is required if the development satisfies the municipality's land development regulations for multifamily developments in areas zoned for such use and is otherwise consistent with the comprehensive plan, with the exception of provisions establishing allowable densities, floor area ratios,

height, and land use. Such land development regulations include, but are not limited to, regulations relating to setbacks and parking requirements. A proposed development located within one-quarter mile of a military installation identified in s. 163.3175(2) may not be administratively approved. Each municipality shall maintain on its website a policy containing procedures and expectations for administrative approval pursuant to this subsection.

(f)1.(e) A municipality must consider reducing parking requirements for a proposed development authorized under this subsection if the development is located within one-quarter one-half mile of a major transit stop, as defined in the municipality's land development code, and the major transit stop is accessible from the development.

2. A municipality must reduce parking requirements by at least 20 percent for a proposed development authorized under this subsection if the development:

a. Is located within one-half mile of a major transportation hub that is accessible from the proposed development by safe, pedestrian-friendly means, such as sidewalks, crosswalks, elevated pedestrian or bike paths, or other multimodal design features.

b. Has available parking within 600 feet of the proposed development which may consist of options such as on-street parking, parking lots, or parking garages available for use by residents of the proposed development. However, a municipality may not require that the available parking compensate for the reduction in parking requirements.

3. A municipality must eliminate parking requirements for a proposed mixed-use residential development authorized under this subsection within an area recognized by the municipality as a transit-oriented development or area, as provided in paragraph (h).

4. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "major transportation hub" means any transit station, whether bus, train, or light rail, which is served by public transit with a mix of other transportation options.

(g)(f) A municipality that designates less than 20 percent of the land area within its jurisdiction for commercial or industrial use must authorize a proposed multifamily development as provided in this subsection in areas zoned for commercial or industrial use only if the proposed multifamily development is mixed-use residential.

(h) A proposed development authorized under this subsection which is located within a transit-oriented development or area, as recognized by the municipality, must be mixed-use residential and otherwise comply with requirements of the municipality's regulations applicable to the transit-oriented development or area except for use, height, density, floor area ratio,

and parking as provided in this subsection or as otherwise agreed to by the municipality and the applicant for the development.

~~(i)~~^(g) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a development authorized under this subsection must comply with all applicable state and local laws and regulations.

(j)1. Nothing in this subsection precludes a municipality from granting a bonus, variance, conditional use, or other special exception to height, density, or floor area ratio in addition to the height, density, and floor area ratio requirements in this subsection.

2. Nothing in this subsection precludes a proposed development authorized under this subsection from receiving a bonus for density, height, or floor area ratio pursuant to an ordinance or regulation of the jurisdiction where the proposed development is located if the proposed development satisfies the conditions to receive the bonus except for any condition which conflicts with this subsection. If a proposed development qualifies for such bonus, the bonus must be administratively approved by the municipality and no further action by the governing body of the municipality is required.

~~(k)~~^(h) This subsection does not apply to:

1. Airport-impacted areas as provided in s. 333.03.

2. Property defined as recreational and commercial working waterfront in s. 342.201(2)(b) in any area zoned as industrial.

~~(l)~~⁽ⁱ⁾ This subsection expires October 1, 2033.

(8) Any development authorized under paragraph (7)(a) must be treated as a conforming use even after the expiration of subsection (7) and the development's affordability period as provided in paragraph (7)(a), notwithstanding the municipality's comprehensive plan, future land use designation, or zoning. If at any point during the development's affordability period the development violates the affordability period requirement provided in paragraph (7)(a), the development must be allowed a reasonable time to cure such violation. If the violation is not cured within a reasonable time, the development must be treated as a nonconforming use.

Section 3. An applicant for a proposed development authorized under s. 125.01055(7) or s. 166.04151(7), Florida Statutes, who submitted an application, written request, or notice of intent to utilize such provisions to the county or municipality and which has been received by the county or municipality, as applicable, before the effective date of this act may notify the county or municipality by July 1, 2024, of its intent to proceed under the provisions of s. 125.01055(7) or s. 166.04151(7), Florida Statutes, as they existed at the time of submittal. A county or municipality shall allow an applicant who submitted such application, written request, or notice of intent before the effective date of this act the opportunity to submit a revised

application, written request, or notice of intent to account for the changes made by this act.

Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 196.1978, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

196.1978 Affordable housing property exemption.—

(3)(a) As used in this subsection, the term:

1. “Corporation” means the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

2. “Newly constructed” means an improvement to real property which was substantially completed within 5 years before the date of an applicant’s first submission of a request for a certification notice or an application for an exemption pursuant to this subsection ~~section, whichever is earlier.~~

3. “Substantially completed” has the same meaning as in s. 192.042(1).

(b) Notwithstanding ss. 196.195 and 196.196, portions of property in a multifamily project are considered property used for a charitable purpose and are eligible to receive an ad valorem property tax exemption if such portions meet all of the following conditions:

1. Provide affordable housing to natural persons or families meeting the income limitations provided in paragraph (d);

2.a. Are within a newly constructed multifamily project that contains more than 70 units dedicated to housing natural persons or families meeting the income limitations provided in paragraph (d); or

b. Are within a newly constructed multifamily project in an area of critical state concern, as designated by s. 380.0552 or chapter 28-36, Florida Administrative Code, which contains more than 10 units dedicated to housing natural persons or families meeting the income limitations provided in paragraph (d). and

3. Are rented for an amount that does not exceed the amount as specified by the most recent multifamily rental programs income and rent limit chart posted by the corporation and derived from the Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects Income Limits published by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development or 90 percent of the fair market value rent as determined by a rental market study meeting the requirements of paragraph (1) ~~(m)~~, whichever is less.

(c) If a unit that in the previous year received ~~qualified for~~ the exemption under this subsection and was occupied by a tenant is vacant on January 1, the vacant unit is eligible for the exemption if the use of the unit is restricted to providing affordable housing that would otherwise meet the requirements of this subsection and a reasonable effort is made to lease the unit to eligible persons or families.

(d)1. The property appraiser shall exempt:

a. Seventy-five percent of the assessed value of the units in multifamily projects that meet the requirements of this subsection and are Qualified property used to house natural persons or families whose annual household income is greater than 80 percent but not more than 120 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area or, if not within a metropolitan statistical area, within the county in which the person or family resides; and, must receive an ad valorem property tax exemption of 75 percent of the assessed value.

~~b.2. From ad valorem property taxes the units in multifamily projects that meet the requirements of this subsection and are Qualified property used to house natural persons or families whose annual household income does not exceed 80 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area or, if not within a metropolitan statistical area, within the county in which the person or family resides, is exempt from ad valorem property taxes.~~

2. When determining the value of a unit for purposes of applying an exemption pursuant to this paragraph, the property appraiser must include in such valuation the proportionate share of the residential common areas, including the land, fairly attributable to such unit.

(e) To be eligible to receive an exemption under this subsection, a property owner must submit an application on a form prescribed by the department by March 1 for the exemption, accompanied by a certification notice from the corporation to the property appraiser. The property appraiser shall review the application and determine whether the applicant meets all of the requirements of this subsection and is entitled to an exemption. A property appraiser may request and review additional information necessary to make such determination. A property appraiser may grant an exemption only for a property for which the corporation has issued a certification notice and which the property appraiser determines is entitled to an exemption.

(f) To receive a certification notice, a property owner must submit a request to the corporation ~~for certification~~ on a form provided by the corporation which includes all of the following:

1. The most recently completed rental market study meeting the requirements of paragraph (1) ~~(m)~~.

2. A list of the units for which the property owner seeks an exemption.

3. The rent amount received by the property owner for each unit for which the property owner seeks an exemption. If a unit is vacant and qualifies for an exemption under paragraph (c), the property owner must provide evidence of the published rent amount for each vacant unit.

4. A sworn statement, under penalty of perjury, from the applicant restricting the property for a period of not less than 3 years to housing persons or families who meet the income limitations under this subsection.

(g) The corporation shall review the request for a certification notice and certify whether a property that meets the eligibility criteria of paragraphs (b) and (c) this subsection. A determination by the corporation regarding a request for a certification notice does not constitute a grant of an exemption pursuant to this subsection or final agency action pursuant to chapter 120.

1. If the corporation determines that the property meets the eligibility criteria for an exemption under this subsection, the corporation must send a certification notice to the property owner and the property appraiser.

2. If the corporation determines that the property does not meet the eligibility criteria, the corporation must notify the property owner and include the reasons for such determination.

(h) The corporation shall post on its website the deadline to submit a request for a certification notice. The deadline must allow adequate time for a property owner to submit a timely application for exemption to the property appraiser.

~~(i) The property appraiser shall review the application and determine if the applicant is entitled to an exemption. A property appraiser may grant an exemption only for a property for which the corporation has issued a certification notice.~~

~~(j) If the property appraiser determines that for any year during the immediately previous 10 years a person who was not entitled to an exemption under this subsection was granted such an exemption, the property appraiser must serve upon the owner a notice of intent to record in the public records of the county a notice of tax lien against any property owned by that person in the county, and that property must be identified in the notice of tax lien. Any property owned by the taxpayer and situated in this state is subject to the taxes exempted by the improper exemption, plus a penalty of 50 percent of the unpaid taxes for each year and interest at a rate of 15 percent per annum. If an exemption is improperly granted as a result of a clerical mistake or an omission by the property appraiser, the property owner improperly receiving the exemption may not be assessed a penalty or interest.~~

~~(j)(k)~~ Units subject to an agreement with the corporation pursuant to chapter 420 recorded in the official records of the county in which the property is located to provide housing to natural persons or families meeting the extremely-low-income, very-low-income, or low-income limits specified in s. 420.0004 are not eligible for this exemption.

~~(k)~~⁽⁴⁾ Property receiving an exemption pursuant to s. 196.1979 or units used as a transient public lodging establishment as defined in s. 509.013 are is not eligible for this exemption.

~~(l)~~^(m) A rental market study submitted as required by subparagraph (f) 1. paragraph~~(f)~~ must identify the fair market value rent of each unit for which a property owner seeks an exemption. Only a certified general appraiser as defined in s. 475.611 may issue a rental market study. The certified general appraiser must be independent of the property owner who requests the rental market study. In preparing the rental market study, a certified general appraiser shall comply with the standards of professional practice pursuant to part II of chapter 475 and use comparable property within the same geographic area and of the same type as the property for which the exemption is sought. A rental market study must have been completed within 3 years before submission of the application.

~~(m)~~⁽ⁿ⁾ The corporation may adopt rules to implement this section.

~~(n)~~^(o) This subsection first applies to the 2024 tax roll and is repealed December 31, 2059.

Section 5. Present subsections (6) and (7) of section 196.1979, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (8) and (9), respectively, new subsections (6) and (7) are added to that section, and paragraph (b) of subsection (1), subsection (2), paragraphs (d), (f), and (l) of subsection (3), and subsection (5) of that section are amended, to read:

196.1979 County and municipal affordable housing property exemption.

(1)

(b) Qualified property may receive an ad valorem property tax exemption of:

1. Up to 75 percent of the assessed value of each residential unit used to provide affordable housing if fewer than 100 percent of the multifamily project's residential units are used to provide affordable housing meeting the requirements of this section.

2. Up to 100 percent of the assessed value of each residential unit used to provide affordable housing if 100 percent of the multifamily project's residential units are used to provide affordable housing meeting the requirements of this section.

(2) If a residential unit that in the previous year received ~~qualified for~~ the exemption under this section and was occupied by a tenant is vacant on January 1, the vacant unit may qualify for the exemption under this section if the use of the unit is restricted to providing affordable housing that would otherwise meet the requirements of this section and a reasonable effort is made to lease the unit to eligible persons or families.

(3) An ordinance granting the exemption authorized by this section must:

(d) Require the local entity to verify and certify property that meets the requirements of the ordinance as qualified property and forward the certification to the property owner and the property appraiser. If the local entity denies the application for certification exemption, it must notify the applicant and include reasons for the denial.

(f) Require the property owner to submit an application for exemption, on a form prescribed by the department, accompanied by the certification of qualified property, to the property appraiser no later than the deadline specified in s. 196.011 March 1.

(l) Require the county or municipality to post on its website a list of certified properties receiving the exemption for the purpose of facilitating access to affordable housing.

(5) An ordinance adopted under this section must expire before the fourth January 1 after adoption; however, the board of county commissioners or the governing body of the municipality may adopt a new ordinance to renew the exemption. The board of county commissioners or the governing body of the municipality shall deliver a copy of an ordinance adopted under this section to the department and the property appraiser within 10 days after its adoption, but no later than January 1 of the year such exemption will take effect. If the ordinance expires or is repealed, the board of county commissioners or the governing body of the municipality must notify the department and the property appraiser within 10 days after its expiration or repeal, but no later than January 1 of the year the repeal or expiration of such exemption will take effect.

(6) The property appraiser shall review each application for exemption and determine whether the applicant meets all of the requirements of this section and is entitled to an exemption. A property appraiser may request and review additional information necessary to make such determination. A property appraiser may grant an exemption only for a property for which the local entity has certified as qualified property and which the property appraiser determines is entitled to an exemption.

(7) When determining the value of a unit for purposes of applying an exemption pursuant to this section, the property appraiser must include in such valuation the proportionate share of the residential common areas, including the land, fairly attributable to such unit.

Section 6. The amendments made by this act to ss. 196.1978 and 196.1979, Florida Statutes, are intended to be remedial and clarifying in nature and apply retroactively to January 1, 2024.

Section 7. Present subsection (5) of section 333.03, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (6), and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

333.03 Requirement to adopt airport zoning regulations.—

(5) Sections 125.01055(7) and 166.04151(7) do not apply to any of the following:

(a) A proposed development near a runway within one-quarter of a mile laterally from the runway edge and within an area that is the width of one-quarter of a mile extending at right angles from the end of the runway for a distance of 10,000 feet of any existing airport runway or planned airport runway identified in the local government's airport master plan.

(b) A proposed development within any airport noise zone identified in the federal land use compatibility table or in a land-use zoning or airport noise regulation adopted by the local government.

(c) A proposed development that exceeds maximum height restrictions identified in the political subdivision's airport zoning regulation adopted pursuant to this section.

Section 8. Subsection (35) of section 420.507, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.507 Powers of the corporation.—The corporation shall have all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this part, including the following powers which are in addition to all other powers granted by other provisions of this part:

(35) To preclude any applicant, sponsor, or affiliate of an applicant or sponsor from further participation in any of the corporation's programs as provided in s. 420.518, any applicant or affiliate of an applicant which has made a material misrepresentation or engaged in fraudulent actions in connection with any application for a corporation program.

Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 420.5096, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.5096 Florida Hometown Hero Program.—

(3) For loans made available pursuant to s. 420.507(23)(a)1. or 2., the corporation may underwrite and make those mortgage loans through the program to persons or families who have household incomes that do not exceed 150 percent of the state median income or local median income, whichever is greater. A borrower must be seeking to purchase a home as a primary residence; must be a first-time homebuyer and a Florida resident; and must be employed full-time by a Florida-based employer. The borrower must provide documentation of full-time employment; or full-time status for self-employed individuals, ~~of 35 hours or more per week.~~ The requirement to

be a first-time homebuyer does not apply to a borrower who is an active duty servicemember of a branch of the armed forces or the Florida National Guard, as defined in s. 250.01, or a veteran.

Section 10. Section 420.518, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.518 Preclusion from participation in corporation programs ~~Fraudulent or material misrepresentation.~~—

(1) An applicant, a sponsor, or an affiliate of an applicant or a sponsor may be precluded from participation in any corporation program if the applicant or affiliate of the applicant has:

(a) Made a material misrepresentation or engaged in fraudulent actions in connection with any corporation program.

(b) Been convicted or found guilty of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the financing, construction, or management of affordable housing or the fraudulent procurement of state or federal funds. The record of a conviction certified or authenticated in such form as to be admissible in evidence under the laws of the state shall be admissible as prima facie evidence of such guilt.

(c) Been excluded from any federal funding program related to the provision of housing, including debarment from participation in federal housing programs by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(d) Been excluded from any federal or Florida procurement programs.

(e) Offered or given consideration, other than the consideration to provide affordable housing, with respect to a local contribution.

(f) Demonstrated a pattern of noncompliance and a failure to correct any such noncompliance after notice from the corporation in the construction, operation, or management of one or more developments funded through a corporation program.

(g) Materially or repeatedly violated any condition imposed by the corporation in connection with the administration of a corporation program, including a land use restriction agreement, an extended use agreement, or any other financing or regulatory agreement with the corporation.

(2) Upon a determination by the board of directors of the corporation that an applicant or affiliate of the applicant be precluded from participation in any corporation program, the board may issue an order taking any or all of the following actions:

(a) Preclude such applicant or affiliate from applying for funding from any corporation program for a specified period. The period may be a specified

period of time or permanent in nature. With regard to establishing the duration, the board shall consider the facts and circumstances, inclusive of the compliance history of the applicant or affiliate of the applicant, the type of action under subsection (1), and the degree of harm to the corporation's programs that has been or may be done.

(b) Revoke any funding previously awarded by the corporation for any development for which construction or rehabilitation has not commenced.

(3) Before any order issued under this section can be final, an administrative complaint must be served on the applicant, affiliate of the applicant, or its registered agent that provides notification of findings of the board, the intended action, and the opportunity to request a proceeding pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57.

(4) Any funding, allocation of federal housing credits, credit underwriting procedures, or application review for any development for which construction or rehabilitation has not commenced may be suspended by the corporation upon the service of an administrative complaint on the applicant, affiliate of the applicant, or its registered agent. The suspension shall be effective from the date the administrative complaint is served until an order issued by the corporation in regard to that complaint becomes final.

Section 11. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, from the funds received and deposited into the General Revenue Fund from the state's allocation from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund created under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2, the sum of \$100 million in nonrecurring funds is appropriated to the State Housing Trust Fund for use by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to implement the Florida Hometown Hero Program established in s. 420.5096, Florida Statutes.

Section 12. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 16, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 16, 2024.